

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 095620
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 PM-05 CG-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 /068 R

DRAFTED BY DOD:CDR.HERBERT ARA/CAR:FTUMMINIA:KC
APPROVED BY ARA:SASHELTON
ARA/CAR:AHEWITT
PM:PSCHLAMM
DOD:JWOODS (DRAFT)

-----010751 141749Z /47

R 132331Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 095620

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, TD

SUBJECT: OMEGA TRINIDAD

REFS: (A) PORT OF SPAIN 1062 (B) STATE 116537 (C) STATE
116538 (D) STATE 001784 (E) PORT OF SPAIN 3848 (F) STATE
077989 (G) PORT OF SPAIN I00I

1. FOLLOWING IN RESPONSE TO REF A.

A. EXTENT AND TYPE OF PROPOSED JOINT OPERATION AND
MANAGEMENT OF OMEGA TRINIDAD DELINEATED IN REFTEL B
AND CLAUSE 3 OF DRAFT AGREEMENT REFTEL C. AS EXPLAINED
IN THOSE REFERENCES, THE TEMPORARY NATURE OF THE
FACILITY AND THE LACK OF RESOURCES TO IMPLEMENT OR
MANAGE AN EXTENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAM OR TO INCORPORATE
A GREATER DEGREE OF DIRECT MANAGEMENT OR OPERATIONS BY
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INDIGENOUS PERSONNEL FORM THE BASIS FOR LIMITED INVOLVE-
MENT.

B. DESIRE FOR A MID-APRIL DECISION BY GOTT IS BASED ON
PHASE-OUT REQUIREMENTS OF REFTEL D WHICH WERE DEVELOPED

IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL E; ON CONTRACTING AND ENGINEERING

COMPLICATIONS CITED REFTEL F; AS WELL AS ON OTHER FACTORS. POTENTIAL FOR SHUT-DOWN DUE TO LACK OF SPARES AND DETERIORATING CONDITION OF EQUIPMENT IS RELATIVELY HIGH; RESUPPLY, EVEN ON EMERGENCY BASIS, COULD VARY FROM A WEEK TO SEVERAL MONTHS DEPENDING ON COMPONENTS INVOLVED. THEREFORE, EARLY DECISION IS ESSENTIAL TO AVOID AN INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE. AUTHORITY TO CONTINUE IMPORT CAPABILITY AS STATED REFTEL G IS WELCOME BUT DOES NOT RESOLVE PROCUREMENT LEAD TIME PROBLEM.

C. STOCK OF NAVIGATION CHARTS REQUIRED FOR USE OF THE TRINIDAD SIGNAL HAS BEEN DEPLETED AND REPRINTING IS BEING POSTPONED PENDING DECISION ON CONTINUED OPERATION. AS A RESULT, USERS CANNOT ACQUIRE NEW CHARTS AND ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY IN MAKING FLIGHT, VOYAGE, TEST, RECEIVER PROCUREMENT AND MARKETING PLANS. IF ADDITIONAL TIME NEEDED TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WITH GOTT, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO EXTEND THE CURRENT PHASE-OUT DEADLINE OF 30 JUNE TO PROVIDE AT LEAST TWO MONTHS TO DISESTABLISH FACILITY ONCE TRANSMISSIONS CEASE. THEREFORE, REQUEST AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE YOUR BEST ESTIMATE AS TO WHEN A DECISION CAN BE EXPECTED BY THE GOTT.

2. EMBASSY PLEASE INCLUDE COGUARD ONSAD FOR INFO
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ON ALL OMEGA CABLES. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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